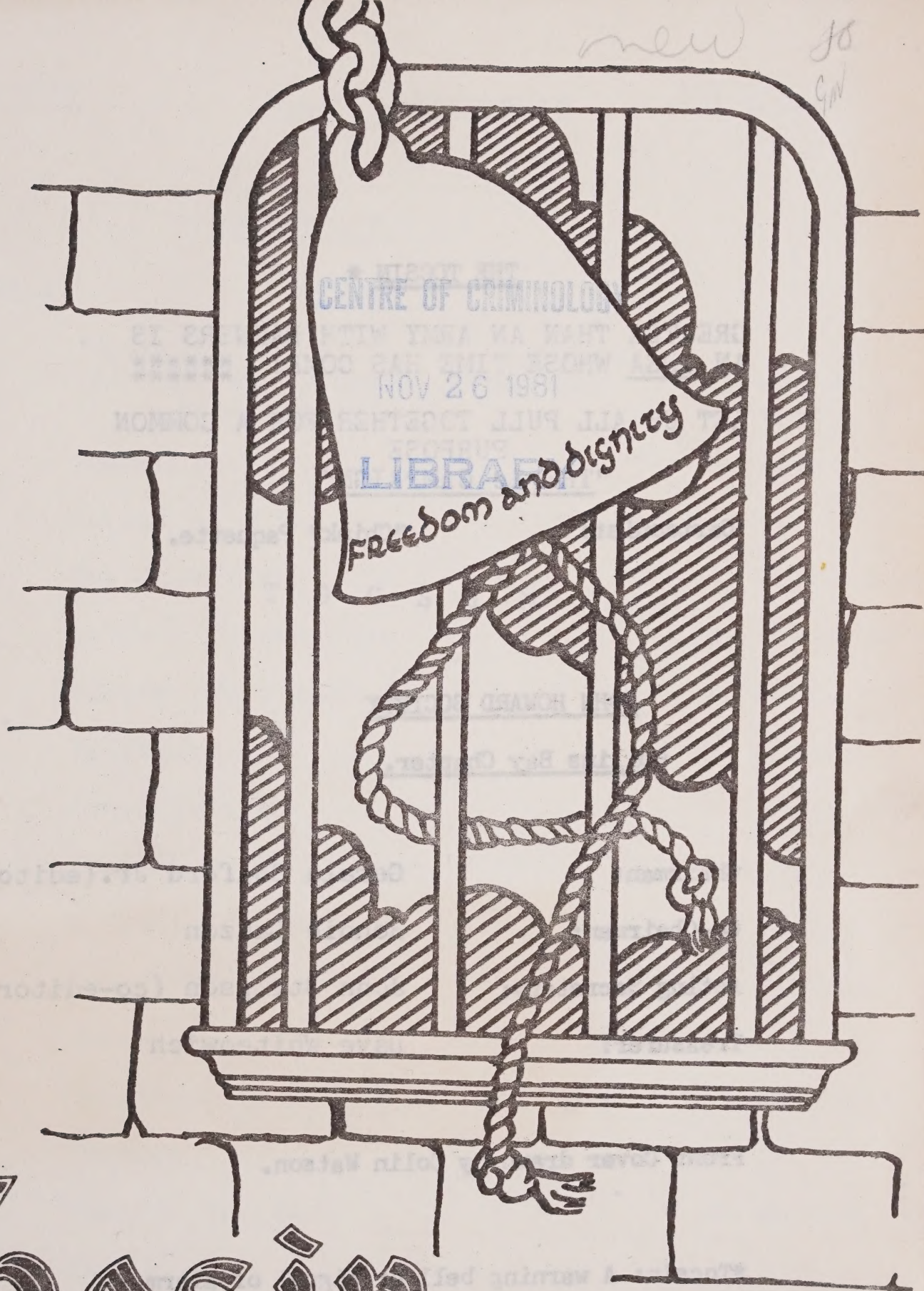




Jocsin

AUGUST * SEPTEMBER
19 81

THE TOCSIN *

GREATER THAN AN ARMY WITH BANNERS IS
AN IDEA WHOSE TIME HAS COME! *****

LET US ALL PULL TOGETHER FOR A COMMON
PURPOSE
"THE 1¢ CAMPAIGN"

Cartoonist: "Chink" Paquette.

JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY

Collins Bay Chapter.

Chairman:	Gerald Colford Jr.(editor)
Co-Chairman:	Ronnie Lauzon
Acting Secretary:	John Stimpson (co-editor)
Treasurer:	Dave Whiteowich

Front Cover drawn by Colin Watson.

*Tocsin: A warning bell or signal of alarm.

C O N T E N T S

PAGE NO.

1	Introduction to the "Ly Chapter"	J. H. S. of
3	re: "The Abolition of Mandatory Supervision"	C. P. I.
14	Communications	C. Knox
16	Jokes & Quips	
17	The Olympics	G. Colvard Jr.
19	Editorial: Freedom of the Press	J. Stinson
22	Poetry: My Friend	P. Douda
23	Humorous	B. Bryant
25	Sensitivities	T. L. L.
27	The Tough Guy Poetry	American
29	A Tradition Dies	G. J. L.
31	Mandatory Supervision	B. McLean
34	Jokes	
35	Tricery-Really Top's & L. & Art	J. Halenson
40	Cartoon	
42	Poetry: The Best	P. Douda
43	Cartoon	

T O C S I N

Digitized by the Internet Archive
in 2025 with funding from
University of Toronto

<https://archive.org/details/31761075964239>

C O N T E N T S

PAGE NO.

1	Introduction to the "1¢ Campaign"	
3	re: "The Abolition of Mandatory Supervision"	J.H.S. of C.B.I.
14	Communications	C. Knox
16	Jokes & Quips	
17	The Olympiad	G. Colford Jr.
19	Another Perspective	J. Stimpson
22	Poetry My Friend	F. Dodds
23	Attitudes	B. Bryant
25	Sensitivities	T. Smith
27	The Tough Guy Poetry	Tamerlane
29	A Tradition Dies	G. J. Lott
31	Mandatory Supervision	B. McLagan
34	Jokes	
35	Thievery-Really Isn't a Lost Art	J. Melanson
40	Cartoon	
42	Poetry The Debt	P. Dunbar
43	Cartoon	

cont. : contents

44.	Jokes	
45.	Food For Thought	
46.	Poetry Space	M. Hamblin
47.	Prisoners Infor Services	J. Melanson G. Simmons
49.	Con's Extend Invitation to N.P.B.	G. Beasley
51.	Poetry Death & Fear of Death	T.B.S.
52.	Poetry (Thankyou Greta) Truth	K. Gibran
53.	Kaplan & Mandatory Supervision	T.D. Dawes
54.	J.H.S. Kingston re: A.M.S.	G. Stewart
56.	Prison and Humiliation	B. Bryant
57.	The Young Offender	G. Colford
60.	Quips	
61.	The 1ø Campaign	G. Colford
63.	Cartoon	
64.	J.H.S. of C.B.I. Aims and Objectives	
65.	New Subscriber Forms (smile)	Editor & Co-Editor

Editors Note: Hello everyone, just a couple of words to let you know the paper is coming along fine. The major problem now is the end of this postal strike. I'm not sure if the old addage of "much wants more" is applicable where this problem is concerned, but I certainly have my own opinions. No doubt you do too.

The major part of this months issue is to be devoted to our "1~~g~~ CAMPAIGN", re: Abolish Mandatory Supervision. Without a doubt YOU, our subscribers, are more than interested in prison reform, and the rechannelling of hundreds of millions of wasted tax-payer's dollars into something constructive. Please join us and organize your own local campaign. We are counting on your participation and support. We need your help if we hope to succeed.

Mandatory Supervision: Briefly: A concept instituted 10 years ago to assist inmates in the fields of employment, housing, counselling, family, drug, alcohol, any area's that an ex-con or his family might need assistance. Naturally the Correctional Services of Canada have managed to twist and distort a program of this nature into an extension of the police force. An additional surveillance method, that is costing millions of dollars. For those of you that are not aware, this form of surveillance was tried in the United States and abandoned as a farce. But our government is pushing on and compounding an already useless situation. The most frustrating aspect of this campaign is having to launch it in the first place, Mr. R. Kaplan, and his advisors admit, it does not work, as it now stands.

Earned Remission: This is time earned for good behaviour, and participating in prison industry. Also for the participation of inmates in program's aimed at rehabilitation. This is stated in a legal contract, put out by the Correctional Services of Canada. It is a joke! There is no time off for good behaviour. An inmate earns it inside the walls of prison, and then has to go out at the end of his sentence and redo it on the street, under Mandatory Supervision. This is not fair, nor ethical. It leads to bitterness and frustration. This problem is compounded by the lack of facilities to help him and his family readjust to a normal life in the community. We want these wasted dollars redirected towards rehabilitation. Is this asking for too much?

Inmate Violence: Mr. R. Kaplan, our Solicitor General publicly admits, the percentage of inmates involved in crimes of violence after release adds up to the grand total of .6 of 1%. Does this sound like the figures released to you, the public. For some reason the government doesn't seem to want to make this figure to public. I wonder why? Could there be other groups or organizations putting pressure on them? No doubt in my mind. We won't get in to that aspect of the campaign now, it then deteriorates into a "mud slinging" campaign, which we have no intention of involving ourselves in.

I felt that this saying was very appropriate to our campaign:

GREATER THAN AN ARMY WITH BANNERS IS AN IDEA WHOSE
TIME HAS COME!

Editors Note: the emphasis in this issue is being placed on the upcoming, perhaps I should say, the "1¢ Campaign" re the Abolition of Mandatory Supervision. By the time this edition is scrutinized for mistakes, goes to the printer, returns and makes the mail, the campaign will be well in progress. This is an appeal to one and all to actively participate and make yourself heard. The following promotional package that many of you may receive, was assembled by the prisoner's of Collins Bay Institution, with the help of J.H.S. of Ontario, and Mr. Bill McCabe, of Queen's University, who is also the Research analyst for J.H.S. of Ontario. Please read it carefully and make yourself heard, it is your tax dollar. Let's put it to good use; REHABILITATION.

"AN INFORMATION PAPER"

"The 1¢ Campaign for the Abolition of Mandatory Supervision"

The following information paper has been edited and prepared by the Collins Bay Chapter of the John Howard Society of Ontario. The Chapter is a prisoners' group operating behind the walls of Collins Bay Federal Institution, located in Kingston, Ontario. The Chapter is a fully chartered branch of the John Howard Society of Ontario.

We ask you to read this information paper so that you can gain a clear understanding of the issue. Our group is confident that you will see the need to campaign for the Abolition of Mandatory Supervision as it now stands. Our cause is moderate prison reform. Please support us and participate in our "1¢ Letter Campaign".

Definition of the Issue

Essentially there are two forms of conditional release: Parole and Mandatory Supervision.

cont.

Parole

Usually a prisoner is eligible to apply for parole after having served $1/3$ of his sentence. If successful he is released and enters into a contractual relationship with the National Parole Board in which he agrees to accept supervision from a parole officer and certain limitations on his freedom.

Mandatory Supervision

In order to understand Mandatory Supervision, one must be familiar with the concept of remission. A prisoner can earn time for good behaviour. He earns one day remission for every two days served, which potentially amounts to $1/3$ of his sentence. This means that effectively he serves at least $2/3$ of his sentence inside the institution. Should he incur an offence while in the institution, he can forfeit some of his earned remission. Unlike parole, the prisoner makes no application. Either the prisoner serves the earned remission portion of his sentence in the community under Mandatory Supervision or he can remain in prison until his sentence expiry date.

Mandatory Supervision was a concept introduced by the Federal government approximately ten years ago. Emphasis was placed on helping prisoners readjust to society. This would be accomplished by utilizing agencies (Federal and Private) that provided assistance in such areas as employment, housing, education and counselling. It was recognized that these private agencies were (and are) integral parts of the process of REHABILITATION.

A person on Mandatory Supervision may be suspended or revoked (sent back to prison) for obvious reasons, (I.E. conviction for crimes committed while on Mandatory Supervision). However, did you know that under Mandatory Supervision a man can be returned to prison for getting married, having one drink, leaving his twenty-five mile radius and for buying a car without

cont.

permission. People have been sent back to prison for Suspicion, Association and other non-criminal acts! These latter occurrences are known as Technical Violations.

According to the Solicitor General's Study of Conditional Release, report of the Working Group, March 1981, 2,913 prisoners were released on Mandatory Supervision in 1978. Of this total 551 were revoked without a new offense, in other words they were sent back to prison for Technical Violations.

WHAT ARE SOCIETY'S CONCERNS

Violence:

- * From January 1975 to June 1980 only 324 persons were readmitted to Federal Institutions for committing crimes against the person, while serving time under a Mandatory Supervision contract; from a total of 13,245 releases on Mandatory Supervision from January 1975 to December 1979. "Solicitor General's Study of Conditional Release, March 1981"
- * Public concern about violence committed by Federal offenders is largely out of proportion to its actual incidence. A study done by the Government, "Report of the Solicitor General's Committee on Mandatory Supervision", points this exaggeration out. Also supported by the 1977 Nuffield Report.
- * The most recent report released by Mr. Kaplan, July 6, 1981 on "Conditional Release" states that violence is engaged in by only a very small percentage of offenders." (No percentage given).
- * The governments own report brought this to light. "In fact there is some reason to suggest that the shorter the time served by a prisoner, the less likely he may be to recidivate, (turn back to a life of crime). Gottredson 1977.

Cost to Taxpayers:

- *From 1972 to 1979, 18,278 prisoners were released on Mandatory Supervision. Of this total 3031 were returned to prison for Technical Violations. At today's prices of \$40,000.00 per prisoner per year of incarceration, it cost the Canadian People \$121,240,000.00 to return and keep the Technical Violators from 1972 to 1979. (March 1981, Report to Solicitor General).
- *From 1972 to 1979, 3,975 people were returned to prison for committing new offenses while on Mandatory Supervision. Again at today's prices, it cost the Canadian People \$155,000,000.00 to return and hold the offenders in prison. 4/5ths were involved in non-violent offences. (March 1981, Report to Solicitor General).
- *The Correctional Services of Canada spends over 600 million dollars to warehouse 10,000 men and women.
- *The Criminal Justice System in this country is a Billion Dollar Industry. Knowledge of actual costs cannot be accurate, because of our complex system involving everything from the police, courts, jails, prisons, parole service, the correctional service, but the annual cost has been estimated at 2.5 Billion Dollars.

THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF ONTARIO POSITION re M.S.

The concept of Mandatory Supervision has lost its purpose. It has been twisted and manipulated to what it is today, a surveillance system of the Criminal Justice System. Mandatory Supervision has lost the important aspects of rehabilitation, and presently leads to frustration for prisoners and a waste of Taxes by the government. Poor attributes for fostering rehabilitation.

cont.

Prisoners are upset because they have been promised a reduction of their sentences if they work regularly at prison industry and obey rules and regulations layed down by the Federal government and the Correctional Services of Canada. In reality they receive only hollow promises, and are compelled to complete the balance of their time under Mandatory Supervision or stay in prison.

The John Howard Society of Ontario recommends that Mandatory Supervision be abandoned. The concept of remission should remain and it should be earned. If a person released in this way is suspected of further criminal activity, he should be charged and the matter dealt with in a court of law. Persons released from prison on the basis of their earned remission should be able to pursue their lives without supervision and be able to seek assistance as they see necessary.

Protection of the community is more appropriately assured by the essential services and community resources being made available to ex-offenders as they require them.

WHAT ARE THE OPTIONS?

Prisoners are not asking for anyone to lose their job. Nor are we asking for more government money. Our requests are moderate and constructive.

*Prisoners are asking for the Abolition of Mandatory Supervision as it now stands and that the wasted millions be redirected towards employment, housing, education and counselling. In other words rehabilitation.

*Prisoners are asking that more effective use be made of the private aftercare agencies in Canada through Federal Block Funding of diversified and specialized services for offenders.

cont.

*Prisoners are asking that the one real strength of the private sector, its potential for diversification, which is not being tapped properly, if anything the trend is towards standardization of the private sector, similar to that in the government. Prisoners want the private sector more involved, not more government.

*Prisoners are asking that Technical Violations be Abolished Immediately, this could serve as a starting point in an honest dialogue between Prisoners and Society.

WHAT THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY OF COLLINS BAY IS DOING

Our primary reason for mounting the "1¢ Campaign" is to make you, the public aware of the facts concerning the **waste in dollars** and humanity as they relate to Mandatory Supervision. Our group is deeply committed to non-violent prison reform. The bottom line is to help an inmate get out, and stay out. We wish to be appreciated as human beings, and if given a chance, will make good citizens. At present our Chapter is involved in an Awareness Program, held Monday nights, in which volunteers from the community and inmates help each other become more aware of each other's problems and expectations. A project called Bridgehouse is keeping us busy these days, trying to provide low cost housing for inmates' families visiting each month. This is an important facet of rehabilitation. The government doesn't seem to think so, they will not help. We are running a Life Skills Course in conjunction with the community college and the Correctional Services of Canada for approximately sixty inmates per year. This is a program that should be made available to every inmate who asks. It is on a trial basis at present. We are able to say that this is a concrete step towards rehabilitation. Let's hope it continues. The group is publishing a news-

cont.

paper called TOCSIN. This is our sole means of support for the inside Chapter. We operate an office called Prisoners Information Services, helping inmates prepare parole papers, write letters home, orient new arrivals with institution procedures and a host of other duties. We assist in parole interview counselling, for inmates that may have trouble relating at an interview. Most only get one chance to explain their plans to the parole board. It would be easy to fill this page, but we must go on. We are concerned.

"1¢ CAMPAIGN"

The "1¢ CAMPAIGN" was designed to make people aware of prisoners and Mandatory Supervision. To point out the waste in government, to show the emphasis placed on incarceration (keeping a person in prison) as compared to rehabilitation (preparing a person for release). We have tried to cover the exaggeration of violence and cost.

We have tried to condense into three pages, what the government has covered in hundreds of thousands. Committee's, sub-committee's, reports, drafts, etc.

Our goal is to make YOU, the taxpayer aware; together we have an opportunity to be heard by the government.

By turning the page and reading the instructions you have an opportunity to participate in progress. For 1¢ we ask that you join us.

INSTRUCTIONS

The following pages have given you a brief outline as to our policies and the reasons behind them. We fully believe they are moderate, non-violent requests. In the event any additional information is required we will try and supply same, and failing that will direct you to the parties that can fulfil your needs.

"1¢ CAMPAIGN"

The following are instructions as to ways and means of instituting our campaign:

1. Please note, it is not necessary to apply postage of any type, for any letter going to any member of parliament.
2. We do ask that you apply a 1¢ stamp as a symbol of our unity and direction. Apply, top right hand corner of the envelope.
3. Address the envelope to Mr. Sven Robinson N.D.P., Parliament Building, Ottawa, Ontario, Canada. or to Mr. P.C., same address. Send a letter to one or the other, though we would prefer you sent a letter to both.
4. Place your name, address, city and province in the left hand corner of the envelope. You may use yourself, relatives or friends. With their permission you may mail as many as you would like.
5. Across the back-flap of the envelope write: ABOLISH MANDATORY SUPERVISION.
6. If you would care to enclose a letter expressing your views, please do, though it is not necessary.
7. We ask that you have your local campaign completed and the letters ready to roll by November 9, 1981. We hope to bring it to a close by November 30, 1981.

PICTURE EXAMPLE ON NEXT PAGE:

"OVER"

Please organize you own family, and any groups or organization to whom you might be affiliated. Thank you for your support, and we wish to add, that many people have given us hundreds of reasons why it will not succeed, but believe me if we (as a people) stick together, and give it our best, WE WILL SUCCEED!

Perhaps there are many aspects of the government, that are hard to live with, but it is our country, and peaceful change, for the better can only make us stronger in the eyes of the world.

cont.

Front

Envelope:

Your name
address,
city, prov.

1¢

Mr. Svend Robinson, N.D.P. or
Mr. Joe Clark , P.C.
Parliament Building
Ottawa, Ont., Can.

Back

ABOLISH MANDATORY SUPERVISION

Note: We would like to see you send a separate letter
to each man.

TOGETHER WE HAVE A CHANCE TO SUCEED, SO LETS PULL TO-
GETHER.

cont.

A BRIEF PRIMER ON WAYS TO REACH THE MEDIA AND HAVE
OUR CONCERNS HEARD

1. With mass public pressure mobilized through the media we can challenge the authorities to accept their responsibilities. Our last campaign was an example of how this can be done.
2. We have newsworthy issues that affect the lives of all peoples in Canada and when the issues are public and understood, the process of change is set in motion.
3. The issuing of press releases to editors of editorial pages with human interest stories is one way.
4. Offering to publish packages, complete with picture, is often a welcome sight at many local newspapers.
5. Making use of a media list is an effective way to ensure that sympathetic and interested parties receive advance notice of press releases. The bottom line is that they need sources of information and news as much as we need them for an outlet.
6. With a press liaison person in each group the information will flow smoothly and an interest will develop hopefully with each media discipline.
7. All that is left now is to choose an area, "Mandatory Supervision" of personal concern, and become inventive in presenting our case as the powers-to-be are in side-stepping them.

We ask that each group or organization that receives one of our promotional packages presents it to his or her people and appoint a liaison person to organize the "100 CAMPAIGN" and stay in touch with our Chapter. This is a National Drive, and the support of everyone is needed if we hope to be successful. Let's work together. Please note that we are in the process of establishing a network of people and groups that could be an asset to all of us in the future. If parties involved need our help, please ask, we want to participate in the future of our country.

cont.

GREATER THAN AN ARMY WITH
BANNERS IS AN IDEA WHOSE
TIME HAS COME!

SINCERELY

SINCERELY

John Stimpson
Secretary J.H.S.
of Collins Bay.

Gerald Colford Jr.
Chairman J.H.S.
of Collins Bay

ON BEHALF OF THE GROUP AND PERSONALLY WE WISH TO SAY
THANKYOU, WE HERE AT COLLINS BAY WILL BE CONTRIBUTING
OUR SHARE. REMEMBER, IF WE CAN EVER BE OF ASSISTANCE
TO ANY PERSON OR GROUP, JUST ASK! WE WILL HELP.

Knowledge is essential to conquest; only
according to our ignorance are we helpless.
Thought creates character. Character can
dominate conditions. Will creates circum-
stances and enviroment.

Besant

Editors Note: This article has been written by a friend of mine. We have been corresponding since he read an article in the Edmonton Journal The Abolition of Mandatory Supervision while we the J.H.S. Chapter of Collins Bay were conducting Phase 1; our early spring campaign. We have become regular pen-pals, and I do hope he continues to submit articles.

COMMUNICATIONS

Finally the postal lines of communication have been rejoined. Its disruption has been paramount, and affected every facet of the Canadian life style.

Not the least of these being the correspondence between inmates and the outside; of which I don't need to tell you, the inmates about. I can only begin to appreciate the inconvenience and frustration it has caused all residents of the penal system across Canada.

It's this link with the outside that is important. It should be remembered that to conform or reform to society's ideals a person must be a part of that society or be in touch with it. As Larry Harvey(our past Chairman, who has now gone to camp) points out (Tocsin April/May 81, p.25) "Relationships are important because through them society organizes the individual's thinking and acting".

A continual flow of opinions, plans and hopes must be maintained between the inside and outside. This flow must be a two way street. The inmate has to be kept current with outside ethics, trends and issues. Likewise the individual on the street has an obligation to keep abreast of the operation, rights (or lack of) and situations on the inside.

cont.

Again if I may refer to Tocsin (April/May 81,p.29) Bob Cussler, (now in camp) speaks of public ignorance. How unfortunately true. A great majority have no idea what Mandatory Supervision (M.S.) or Special Handling Units (S.H.U.) are all about. There are three methods of learning about such terms and their meaning; 1. first hand (doin' time) 2. from authorities and officials (usually a superficial explanation) 3. communication from within the system (inmates).

The third being the best source (without experience). Only when "joe public" has a grasp of the situation on the inside can he evaluate, appreciate and take action.

It is of utmost importance to keep the lines of communication open. Maintain an exchange of ideas and aims from the inside out and the outside in. Tocsin is an excellent focal point for such exchange.

I once read "Ultimately the bond of all companionship, whether in marriage or in friendship is conversation". It is very necessary for convicted criminals to establish a dialogue with people on the outside during their incarceration. Isolation from society speaks for itself.

Cliff Knox
Medely, Alberta
(On the street, let's
communicate and educate).

Did you know!

The longest jail sentence on record is 381 years, passed on a 16 year old boy in Montreal in 1964. The youth had pleaded guilty to six counts of attempted murder and a series of armed robberies.

"JOKES"

A man from Winnipeg died and went to heaven, where St. Peter greeted him at the Pearly Gates.

"Where are you from?" St. Peter asked.

"Manitoba," came the reply.

"Well," St. Peter said, "come on in. But you won't be satisfied."

It happened in Ottawa. A cop was about to ticket a car illegally parked when he saw a sticker on the windshield. It read: "This car is the property of the Canadian government. Traffic tickets must be accompanied by the regulation seven carbon copies."

One nice thing about the battle of the sexes-it will never be a cold war.

We just got word about the legal secretary who told her amorous boyfriend, "Stop and/or I'll slap your face."

Our unabashed dictionary defines "henpecked husband" as one who is afraid to tell his pregnant wife that he is sterile.

A fool and his money are soon popular.

Many a wife thinks her husband is the world's greatest lover. But she can never manage to catch him at it.

Some people have no respect for age, unless it's bottled.

Editors Note: Billy Bryant had attached to his article, a short paragraph relating to a thought process that I personally feel is true to life.

After an offender has been subjected to unfair or excessive punishment and treatment more degrading than that prescribed by law, he comes to justify his act which he could not have justified when he committed it. He decides to "Get Even" for his unjust treatment in prison and takes reprisals through further crime at the first opportunity.

WITH THAT DECISION HE BECOMES A CRIMINAL!

By: Billy Bryant.

THE OLYMPIAD

On behalf of the Collins Bay Chapter, and I feel quite secure in saying all of the other Chapters that participated in the "Exceptional Peoples Olympiad", I feel proud to say that we were actively involved in this fantastic event.

But my main reason for writing this article is to focus the attention of the Parole Board, Correctional Services of Canada and the Institution on the contribution being made by the "Ten Plus" and the "Lifers Group" towards this worthy cause.

These men have long sentences, whatever the reasons and motivations behind their deeds, I certainly am in no position to judge. "But for the grace of God, there go I".

Let me say that living here amongst these men has taught me patience and respect.

The contribution these men have made and are now making towards the Olympiad and many other worthwhile projects cannot be measured in dollars and cents,

cont. the olympiad

but in kindness and compassion. Hundreds of donated hours spent preparing the facilities for the Olympiad, and any other events that happen.

I ask you, the people that control and direct their destiny, give credit where it is deserved. When these men seek help, apply for a pass to be with their families, write for parole to try and re-organize their please let your mind wander back to the contribution they have made to the "Exceptional Peoples Olympiad".

Gerald Colford Jr.
Chairman, J.H.S.

It is not the crook in modern business that we fear, but the honest man who doesn't know what he is doing.

Owen D. Young

Government can be bigger than any of the players on the field as a referee, but it has no right to become one of the players.

Austin Igleheart

I cannot give you the formula for success, but I can give you the formula for failure: Try to please everybody.

Herbert Bayard
Swope

The larger the island of knowledge, the longer the shoreline of wonder.

Ralph W. Sockman

"ANOTHER PERSPECTIVE"

From the outset TOCSIN magazine has published articles calling for the Abolishment of Mandatory Supervision . Most of the articles focus on the humanitarian or the ethical aspect in calling for its abolishment. A great many Canadians may feel that prisoners, who have broken the law don't have the right to protest against Mandatory Supervision. Most Canadians probably don't give a damn about prisoners' protests. What do Canadians care about?

With soaring interest rates, double digit inflation and high unemployment the Canadian people are becoming more aware of the need for fiscal restraint. The reality of owning a home is now a dream for many families, who had to give up their homes because they could not afford the high mortgage payments. The dream of owning a home will never be realized by our young people. Meanwhile the Federal Government lectures the opposition that the Canadian people never had it so good. That the Canadian people will have to learn to live with inflation and lower expectations

Every year the Canadian people are being placed into deeper debt. The Federal Government is fat from the excesses of too much spending. We've all heard about the blunders the government has gotten into with our money. It is a fact most Legislation is very slow to be passed in the House of Commons, but "pay increases for themselves" are passed quickly and efficiently.

Until their sentences expire, prisoners are chattel belonging to the federal government. Daily prisoners witness the waste of tax-payers money and the storage of human beings. Prisoners are told that they can earn 10 days remission a month for working and 5 days a month for good behaviour. In reality this so called "earned remission" is a parole which must be given to a prisoner who has earned it, be-

cont.: "Another Perspective"

-cause that is the law.

In 1978, 1013 (inmates) persons were returned to prison for violating Mandatory Supervision. Of this number 595 were returned for "technical violations", such as leaving their 25 mile radius, buying a car, getting married, association, etc. All non-criminal acts. It costs over 45,000.00 a year to keep a person in prison. Simple arithmetic tells you that in 1978 it cost \$26,775,000.00 to bring people back to prison for non-criminal acts. While serving their "earned remission", and this is escalating every year. In Canada there is a ratio of more than one member of the Correctional Service of Canada staff, to one prisoner. The Correctional Service of Canada is but one branch of a government department. There are many branches and many departments in the Federal System. The world is in the grips of inflation, so country's like the United States are trying to cut down the size of their Bureaucracies, while here in Canada it continues to grow.

Prisoners worry about the government spending, waste and mismanaging public monies because one day prisoners will re-enter society, and at current trends the economy will be in a shambles.

Mandatory Supervision is still enforced because it helps to employ hundreds of people, not because the public demands Mandatory Supervision be kept. Most people don't know a thing about Mandatory Supervision. In the Provincial System men aren't put back in jail for non-criminal acts, the Province doesn't have hundreds of millions of dollars to waste.

The Correctional Services of Canada is just a part of an octopus called the Criminal Justice System. Francis Fox, former Solicitor General of Canada estimates that by 1985 the System will be spen-

cont.: "Another Perspective"

-ding 8 BILLION DOLLARS. Mandatory Supervision is a highly prized part of the Parole System. Prisoners wonder if the waste that they see is rampant throughout the Government! The Auditor-General says it every year, "the government has lost control of its spending". How does the public feel? Have you walked into a government office, Manpower for example, looking for help?

Tell me, what do Canadians care about?

John Stimpson
Secretary, J.H.S.
of C.B.I.

P.S.: The former Solicitor General, Francis Fox based his 8 BILLION DOLLAR figure on estimates of 25,000.00 per year to keep an inmate in prison. The new estimate with inflation, is between 35,000.00 and 45,000.00 per year.

When Mr. F. Fox made that statement I guess a dollar was a dollar, and not eighty cents and falling.

Did you know!

As late as 1909 when there were few traffic laws of any kind on the books in this country, driving licenses were required in only 12 American states. And in England, driving tests were not required for would-be drivers until 1935.



"MY FRIEND"

My friend, I hate to do it,
 but our friendship just can't last.
 The times we shared together,
 have faded to the past.
 I told you it would happen,
 our friendship was bound to end.
 Although I know you care,
 I don't consider you a friend.
 Please don't try to argue,
 but try to understand.
 That time can change two people,
 as the tide changes the sand.
 Our friendship has been lovely,
 but you see, it has to end.
 For I look at you in a different way,
 I've fallen in love with you, MY FRIEND.

submitted by:
 Frank Dodds

"ATTITUDES"

Jake says (he's sensitive), "those dudes took everything from me man, even my effin name." "Shit!" that's all Grizzly says. "When I came in they handled my old lady's picture like she was his." Jake is still talking; "Man, I don't feel human in this joint, juss like a piece of meat, man. The shifts got me down. If it weren't for some sane rappin they could book me. The dudes in the funny farm are gigglin their time away."

Jim says, "That label's worse than bein vilent man. Ya can't even grin that tag away, they're always peepin ya den, and writen tings down. Me man, I'm goin spend my time in school, impressin du man wit how hard I'm tryin. They're goin to have a success story to tell about me. They want me to tink, outta site, I'll tink."

"Shit", Grizzly again.

Jake, "Yau new here, thats why you talk shit. Jus fine yourself a corner an stay outta the way man. No matta what your doin, any time, there sometin your doin wrong to dem. If dey tink a charge won't stick they'll say you was suspicious lookin, when dey fill in der report. Best ya can hope to do is fade in, dats all."

Donny, (he's supposed to be the educated one) pipes up and says, "Why don't you cats use this time to get some teeth, learn something so that when you get out you'll be able to take a bite of that pie. Trying to get a piece of that money pie with a knife or gun ain't going to make it happen anymore."

"Shit", Grizzly again.

cont.: "Attitudes"

Jim says, "Whats left to lose man, I blew everything I ever had by bein late a couple of times at the half-way house. My kids were just findin out that I was their old man, and dey got my old lady convinced commin back was my fault, like I didn't love em or something. The dude that gave me the job so's I could get out don't even want to knwo I'm livin."

"Shit", Grizzly again.

Jim continues, "When I was first here I listened to all that shit about 'det to society', well wait til dey get finished runnin ya down at the parole bord and playin god and cop at the haf-way house, then snatch you ass back, jus when your gettin your act together, or in the middle of du nite for suspicion. Then tell me about society. Then dey tell ya, ya got the wrong attitude. Don't talk all dat reform shit to me man, I've been shook every way but loose."

Jake again, "Du parnoia I felt when I was out der ain't for ya folks to 'unerstan' cause ya can 't know till ya jump outta bed in the middle of du nite cause a car door slammed, thinkin they're here an commin in with a suspicion warrant."

Jake continued, "Later for em man, dey messed with me and mine too long, now der aint no where to go, cept up, and I'm doin dat on my own terms. Dey got to cut me loose from dis joint someday. Can't dem fools see dat, dey shodda given me a break now, not wait till I got so bitter I hate dem all. Till den man don't ask me to help wit any of dat reform baloney.

By: Billy Bryant.

"SENSITIVITIES"

Sensitivities are like love: a luxury prisoners can't afford. Like freedom, they can never be anything but a dream.

Such is prison. Such is nihilism. Such is the existence designed by my masters. Not very nice but we'll survive it. But that's kind of a physical trip though isn't it.

That isn't what life should be. Man the anti-social animal. Kind of scary. Like the liberalism propounded by Hobbes and Locke. Or maybe the death of Homer by Plato. The rationalists. The leaders of genocide of the human race. The social Darwinists who believe evolution is the disappearance of emotions.

Nietzsche was right, God is dead. We killed him. He became a nonentity with the destruction of our souls. Expediency carries a terrible price on it. A price governments seem to be more than willing to pay.

An expedient cage for me; an expedient very structural existence for you. We're really not all that much different. The prisoner and the subject. Both dominated by the arbitrary decisions **that destroys the soul**. Statistics in a computer to be manipulated as the need arises.

Plato made a study of all known forms of government with the intention of designing the perfect state. He recorded it in the Republic. Machiavilli designed a method of gaining and holding power. He recorded it in The Prince. Hitler combined the two. He recorded it in Mein Kampf. Bakunin made a study of love. Marx had him expelled from the Communist International for his anarchy. Co-operation and equality have no room in an elitist state.

The Golden Age of Greece was during the reign of Pericles, a benevolent dictator. A man who discovered the secret

cont.: sensitivities

of making his subjects enjoy their slavery. Quite an accomplishment. Especially when there has never been a good government in the world. Some have been a little better than others. To be governed is to be a slave. A slave who must exist at the whim of his master.

What is the alternative to the loss of our humanism? Maybe there isn't one. Maybe man's nature rejects his own freedom. Anarchy must forever be a utopian dream. We must forever live under the gun. Man has learned to make nuclear weapons easier than he has learned love.

The **Christians** are living a fool's dream. When the meek inherit the world, it won't be habitable. Maybe it's what they deserve. The love they were supposed to have for their God became obedience to their priest caste. The free will, their ideology is based on has been surrendered.

But then the existentialists have suffered the same fate. They surrendered their freedom to the new Marxist religion. The revolutions that exchange masters. The revolutions that exchange prisoners. Menachem Begin denounced that exchange of prisoners. His prisons are now full. It's to be expected. Beliefs change when you're the man with the gun.

The humanists aren't always humanists. The International Social Democrats, the people who want to be benevolent dictators, proved that when they sat idly by while British Labour Party participated in the murder of Bobby Sands. Power was much more important to them than human dignity.

Governments, elitists, and their willing accomplices, their slaves, fear freedom. They do everything in their power to destroy it. Prisons, mental hospitals, executions, all are used to eliminate it. Their controlled media villify it. Their state police sieze it or their

cont.: sensitivities

editor boards ban any literature that promotes freedom from State control.

But maybe Kris Kristofferson is right, "Freedom is just another Word for Nothing Left to Lose". It's terrible if it is. An escaped prisoner. An outlaw. Fair game for every State gunman.

Contrary to what many people who attempt to promote freedom and human dignity claim, the State can control your thoughts. I can receive no anarchist publications. I have political freedom providing I accept the political philosophy of the people in power. Anarchy isn't part of their philosophy. I have freedom of thought but not the freedom to overlap ideas.

Our prisons aren't really much different are they? Any privileges your masters grant you really don't amount to much. Enjoy your slavery but don't expect me to enjoy mine.

By: Tommy Smith

Editors note: One of the inmates submitted this poem to the newspaper, and added his own short note, here it is;

Here's a poem that's been rattling around in my head which probably originated in the U.S. prison system, and was quite a favorite in the O.R.'s in the 50's, that's when poems were poetry.

THE TOUGH GUY

Hey screw open the window, I still do some breathing you know.

cont. the tough guy

I'm waiting to get fried in the hot-seat and want lots of fresh air when I go.

Outside there are roses and sunshine, but I'll never see them again.

What's that, it's after nine-thirty, hell their going to fry me at ten.

I only croaked a copper, should I feel sorry for that

I would'nt have rubbed him so help me, if he hadn't gone for his gat.

See we was blowing a peter, and I was the six-man or stall,

all ready to give them the office if there was a rumble at all.

But just as the nitro exploded, this flat-foot came pounding his beat.

He couldn't help hearing the racket, and there wasn't no time for retreat.

I told him to reach for the planets, but instead he went for his rod.

He wanted to be a big hero, so I put him under the sod.

What am I, a sap or a sucker, should I let him fill me with lead,

he wanted our names in the paper, with me as the one that was dead.

And I want you to tell them reporters, how tough I was right to the end.

cont.: the tough guy

Maybe they'll put that in the papers, just tell them
"I'm hard" will you friend.

What's that they're coming to get me, well stand back
and give me some air.

My knees seem to have turned to rubber, how far
down is that "lectric chair"?

Hey help me, I don't think I can make it, there's no-one
to bid me good-bye.

Say warden, let's wait till to-morrow, I ain't ready
to die.

"Tamerlane"

"A TRADITION DIES"

While digging through the library the other day my
attention was directed towards a book, titled, "The Pic-
torial History of the Royal Canadian Mounted Police";
written by a Mr. S.W. Horrall, an R.C.M.P. Historian.

An interesting fact came to light. The force was
brought into existence in 1873, on paper only. They ach-
ieved active duty status eleven years later.

The honour roll listed 146 officers and men over a
hundred year time span. Considering they came through
Indian uprisings, opened the west, were involved in the
French rebellion out west, two wars and a depression ,
which I may add they did a very brutal job of keeping
the unemployed in line when they tried to protest to
the politicians in Ottawa. All in all the statistics
don't appear to be as bad as first imagined. Forty one
died of wounds inflicted in the line of duty. The rest
of the deaths consisted of plane crashes, drownings,
automobile accidents, cleaning service revolvers, carb-
on monoxide poisoning, hunting accidents and walrus att-
acks. No humour intended. The police seem to have more
to fear from themselves than they do the criminal elem-
ent in Canada.

cont.: a tradition dies

One "criminal bust" that made front page headlines was this; "R.C.M.P. sieze 240,000 cigarettes" as the result of a customs investigation. This fantastic figure breaks down to 1,200 cartons or 24 cases. There were seven men on the investigation. Does this make "dollars" or "sense"?

One other point was made abundantly clear, the whole history of the R.C.M.P. seems to point to one thing, "the end justifies the means". There seems to be little thought as to breaking the law, to uphold this same law.

It has taken us over 100 years for this fact to come to light. It was "driven home", made abundantly clear, as the MacDonald Commission Investigation into wrong doings by the R.C.M.P. has proven beyond a doubt. Do you as Canadian citizens find it hard to believe that it took more than 100 years for us to wake up and see the light.

Death in any form if tragic, I think we all agree. Did you know that over the last 10 years, thats right 10 years, not 100, there have been in excess of 3,000 deaths in prisons across Canada. Do we as prisoner's have an honour roll? Are we Canadians?

DOES ANYONE CARE?

by: George J. Lott
C.B.I.

To have known the best, and to have known it for the best, is success in life.

The silence of a wise man is more wrong to mankind than the slander's speech.

"MANDATORY SUPERVISION"

Dear whom ever is listening out there:

The single most oppressing edict to be issued from Ottawa has been the imposition of Mandatory Supervision.

Not only is it immoral and without foundation in law but it is also in conflict with sound psychological theory.

The sentencing procedures have traditionally taken into consideration that if progress is shown in correcting maladaptive behaviour a person would be released after two-thirds of the sentence has been served. The courts take this incentive into consideration in sentencing. Traditionally and in fact this 1/3 remission is and has been a form of amnesty when an inmate shows that attitude and industry has reached a level that would make them a welcome member in society. The full sentence is served unless this adjustment is positive and obvious. The controls and observations in the institution insure that this criteria is met before release.

The "BILL" passed by parliament that made Mandatory Supervision law is in direct conflict with existing law. The law allowing unencumbered release is still in effect. The headlong rush to enhance the power of the Parole Board has failed to take this into consideration. If it was a case of insuring that a convict be supervised and assisted in adjusting to the transition from prison society to life at large this program would have the total support of inmates as well as sociologists and psychologists.

Nowhere in the scheme of Mandatory Supervision is the "hierarchy of needs" provided for. While on any other program (early release) a number of agencies dedicated to assisting ex-inmates are involved to re-educate and supervise the transition. But the

cont.:mandatory supervision

see "no end in sight" in way of full release.

The human rights people at the United Nations are currently reviewing the double jeopardy of this system, with a view towards censuring Canada. A pretty ignoble state for a country that prattles about human rights throughout the rest of the world.

Earned remission is that part of the sentence which is deducted from the maximum term for good behaviour and industry; and has been a part of the incarceration process for many years. Traditionally, a person who has refused parole, for whatever reason and served his/her complete sentence, less earned remission, was released to freedom. A full and unobstructed release. Contrary to what many people on the outside may believe. A freed person, while angry and resentful to some extent, is more interested in finding a place for himself than raping and pillaging the countryside.

To do this, a person must be free to choose. As it stands now, the choice is to stay in jail or allow ourselves to be directed and codified into an extension of the prison industry.

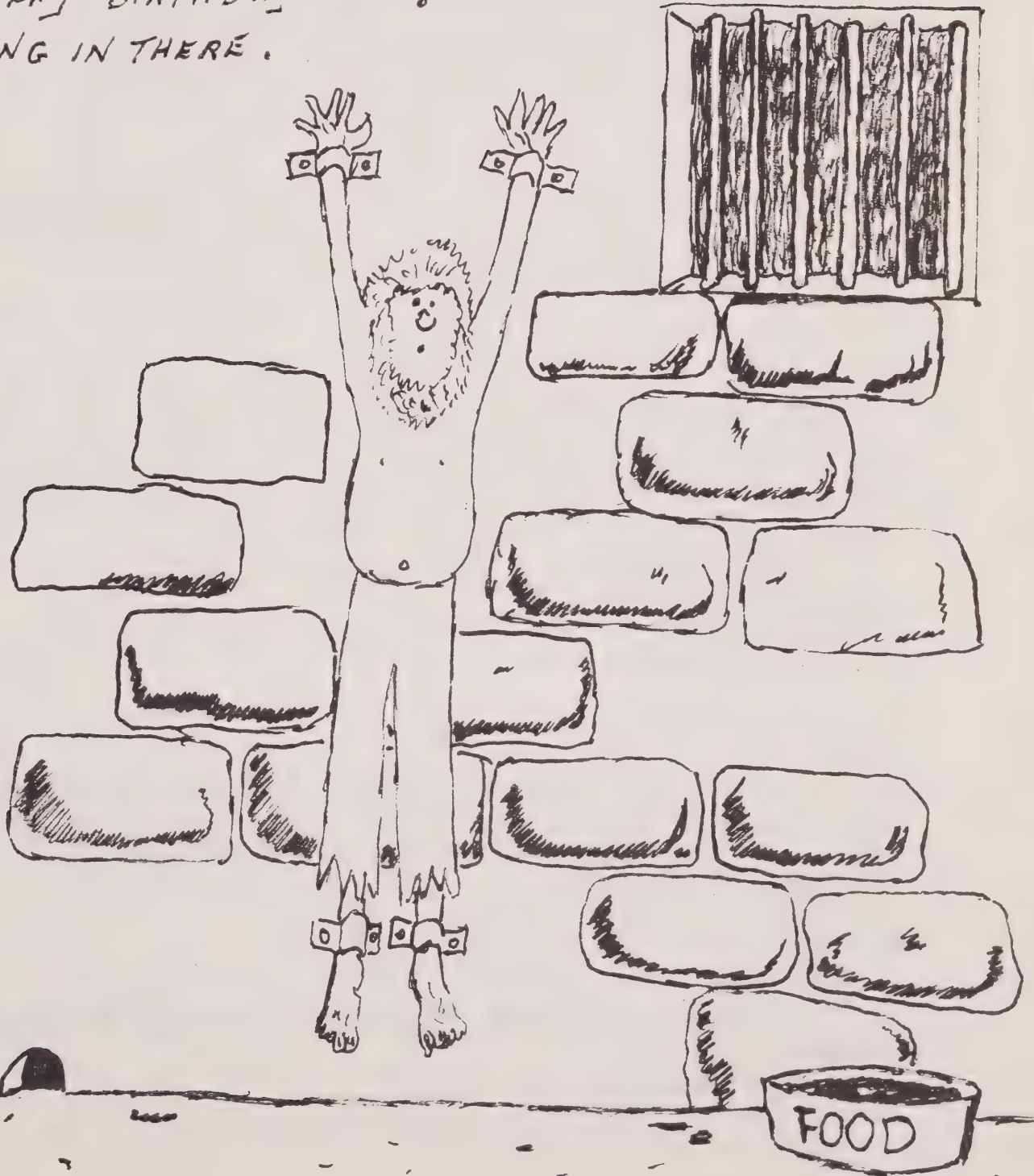
I'm not sure how close this comes to my original presentation, but it's what I would like to have said.

A question was asked at the end, where I answered, that many social theories initiated and practiced in institutions are applicable to the general population, you the people on the street. So if there is any interest in being yourself as opposed to being governed the prison system is a good place to start.

There is no doubt, this is certainly a controversial and demanding subject.

by: Bob McLagan

HAPPY BIRTHDAY SON!
HANG IN THERE.



JOKES

A customer in a Montreal restaurant was suprised to hear his Chinese waiter speak French fluently in describing certain dishes on the menu.

"It's remarkable!" the patron exclaimed to the manager; "How did you get him to speak French like that?"

"Shhh!" hushed the manager. "He thinks he's learning English."

There is absolutely no truth to the rumour that the head of the fisherman's union in Nova Scotia is called "The Codfather".

A B.C. man was visiting a friend in Toronto and was tired of the Torontonians' penchant for bragging and boasting about his home province. And they hadn't even got around to Niagara Falls yet! When they did, the Toronto braggart demanded:

"Now I ask you? Have you got anything in B.C. to compare with that?"

"No," the British Columbian replied wily, "but we've got plumbers who could fix it."

Canada has been described by one pundit as "A country bounded on the north by gold, on the west by the the east, on the east by history and on the south by former Canadians."

"I just saw Prime Minister Trudeau in church praying."

"Oh really? To whom?"

"THIEVERY - REALLY ISN'T A LOST ART"

Much to my dismay I recently found out that after a period spanning two decades that all along I certainly have been putting my meager intelligence towards the wrong line of work.

After spending the last thirty-three months behind the walls of several different institutions I was granted a three day absence with the only stipulation being that I stay within at least arms length of my beautiful wife, a restriction I assure you I found much delight in obeying.

When I opened the front door of Collins Bay I was met by a smiling wizened cab-driver that started my thoughts to leading a new way of life that appears to be accepted by every person I met on the outside world.

After his initial "where to Mac!" I was left in silence to ponder my upcoming bus trip to Toronto. My first shock came when we arrived at the bus terminal and the fare he stated would be \$4.00. This was given with such a warm sincere smile that although I have the taxi fares for almost all points in Kingston to the train station, bus terminal, etc. I paid the money plus a tip. What a dummy I was starting out to be in the big lovely outside world that I had longed for, for so long.

After purchasing my bus ticket to Toronto and finding my way to a phone I turned red as the pretty girls dress that was looking at me as if I was a specimen from the reptile display that had been in town several weeks earlier. All this because of my increasing difficulties in trying to figure out why the pay phone wouldn't work when I kept replacing a dime in the appropriate slot. After fumbling with the phone for several minutes and finally noticing the sign saying 20¢; I made the call and made my way to the vending machines to buy myself a coffee and perhaps a chocolate bar or two, to munch on my way to big T.O. Well my friends back in the Bay would have been proud of me. The first machine gobbled up my 50¢ as fast as the coins

cont.: thievery-really isn't a lost art

could slide down the slot. What!, how come my coffee didn't come out? Like a dummy I again put another 50¢ in the machine, and again I was taken. Drats! , I was supposed to be fairly intelligent,--wasn't I? Like the farm boy who has never been to the city before I made my way to the vending machine which displayed all sorts of palatable delights. To make a long storey short, I was only taken for 50¢, and the next machine took me for a further 45¢. I never lost my cool though, I just loosened my tie and got on the bus and prayed that this wasn't an omen of what was to come.

After a long tiring bus ride I arrived in Toronto and was met by my lovely wife Ann. We made our way to the subway and after jostling for position with approxiamately forty thousand other subway riders, we arrived safely home, to be welcomed by our four children.

Being the proud, doting father that I am, I decided what the heck, I'll take the kids across to the mall and perhaps buy them something small and inexpensive. Ha, Ha, what a joke, something small and inexpensive turned out to be around the \$120.00 mark, and I went home with a little less money and with the thought as to what the heck can you buy out here for 10¢.

Well during the evening hours, not being allowed to drink I could only order a Coke at the nite spot we entered to quench our thirst after walking what seemed to be to me, fifty miles, give or take a mile or two. Not wanting to show the waitress that I was an "Okie" from the outer regions of Tasmania, I placed a five dollar bill on the table to pay for the coke and one drink my wife was nourishing. What the heck I figured we could take in a movie, have a bite to eat after, and then get some rest for the upcoming date with the Exhibition. That surely wouldn't be expensive, well my thoughts of a cheap evening turned to ones of an expensive evening when the waitress returned and placed a one dollar bill and some loose change on our table.

Smiling at Ann I innocently asked, "Wouldn't you much rather go home and spend a quiet evening together?"

Day two opened with four eager children kissing and hugging me and screaming into my ear, "get up dad,

cont. : thievery-really isn't a lost art

it's 6:30 already", mumbling under my breath that all kids must be insane to get up so early I stumbled into the bathroom and secretly counted my rapidly depleting bankroll, which by the way I had been saving for several months from wages earned in the slave quarters of Collins Bay, the bake shop.

This is going to be a great day, I said to Ann, after all isn't the Ex's slogan "3 bucks and your laughing". It turned out that somehow that slogan got mixed up, it should have read, "suckers beware". After buying sixty dollars worth of tickets for our party, which by now totalled nine, I made my way to the area where for a dollar or two you tossed two balls into a basket. If you won and had paid the two dollar fee, you won the prize of your choice. Well needless to say I won on my first two throws and when I asked the girl for the gigantic tiger my wife was eyeing, one of the attendants ran over and screamed in my ear that I had only paid one dollar and therefore I was only entitled to one small prize. Being the diplomatic soul that I am, I told him where to place his small prize and pulled down the tiger and made my way to the next game.

What's wrong out here, I was thinking to myself, geez, I've been in saner loony bins. These people are absolutely bananas over beating others for a few bucks.

The day at the Ex flew by, and of course so did my money. I didn't really mind though because a plan was rapidly forming in my mind where upon my release I would not only be able to go on the straight and narrow path, but also become wealthy at the same time.

The rest of the second day and the third day only made my resolve to go straight that much stronger. Ann, I, and the children entered a Donut shop and we each had a pop and donut to munch on and quench our thirst. \$1.00 for a single donut and pop, geez these people really have crime down pat don't they Ann? Not only that, if someone complained they could use one of their donuts for a weapon because mine was the size of a ball and twice as hard.

Every store we entered all screamed the same thing, bargains, bargains, bargains. Well I had about all the

cont. : thievery-really isn't a lost art

bargains I could handle for three days, and when Ann asked, "Isn't it going to be hard for you to go back there?" I replied, "of course not my dear, I need the rest."

For the past two weeks I've been recuperationg from my three days of love and affection and from the con artists that fleeced me from my hard earned dollars. Am I bitter? Of course not, because I've learned a valuable lesson after all these years. I shoul'n't be in the burglary profession, that doesn't pay well enough. What I intend to do is drive a cab, own several well lit vending machines, that don't work, place a pay phone in every place I can, and sell stale donuts in a bake shop. On the side perhaps I'll buy small stuffed animals wholesale and fleece the public by putting them up for prizes in rigged games for one or two dollars a pop.

Did I enjoy the three days? Boy oh boy, did I ever. Oh! by the way, ---- Thievery isn't a lost art!

by: John Melanson

Why did the Kleenex dance across the table?

.....cause it had a little boogie in it.

How do you get a one-armed Newfie out of a tree?

..... you wave at him.

What's black, bubbles and scratches at glass?

..... Gerry, the editor, trying to get articles,
from the inside of a micro-wave oven.

The above by:

Tommy Malloy (smile)

"THE BOTTOM LINE"

In our "sheltered" world of stereotypes, listless pseudo reality and shattered lives, a beam of light has started to glow. It's quintessence and radiance came in the heartfelt form of the "no nonsense", I want to get to know YOU, Miss Ann Cools.

Recently reappointed to the Parole Board of Canada by the Trudeau Cabinet, Ann displayed her ability to deal with people from all walks of life. It takes an exceptional person to cut a clear path through the social woes of to-days world and come out on top. Without the conflict of interest, a dilemma so commonly prevalent.

Ann, attending a meeting here at Collins Bay Pen, captivated the attention of approximately 50 already captive prisoners, not an easy task by any measure. Expressing her views in a congenial tone, her message came across with emphasis: "Parole! get to know and understand how it works.... Parole! is not about innocence or guilt..... Parole! is the only place where the prisoner is centre stage.... Parole! each case is indeed unique..... Parole Board members, want to get to know us.....".

"Philosophically, people can and do change!".

Being optimistic, I think we need more people like Miss Ann Cools on the parole board. In all fairness I also have to wonder, what are the other National Parole Board members like. Can we in turn get to know them? Are they willing to find/make time in their busy schedules, to, as Ann said, "meet us half way."?

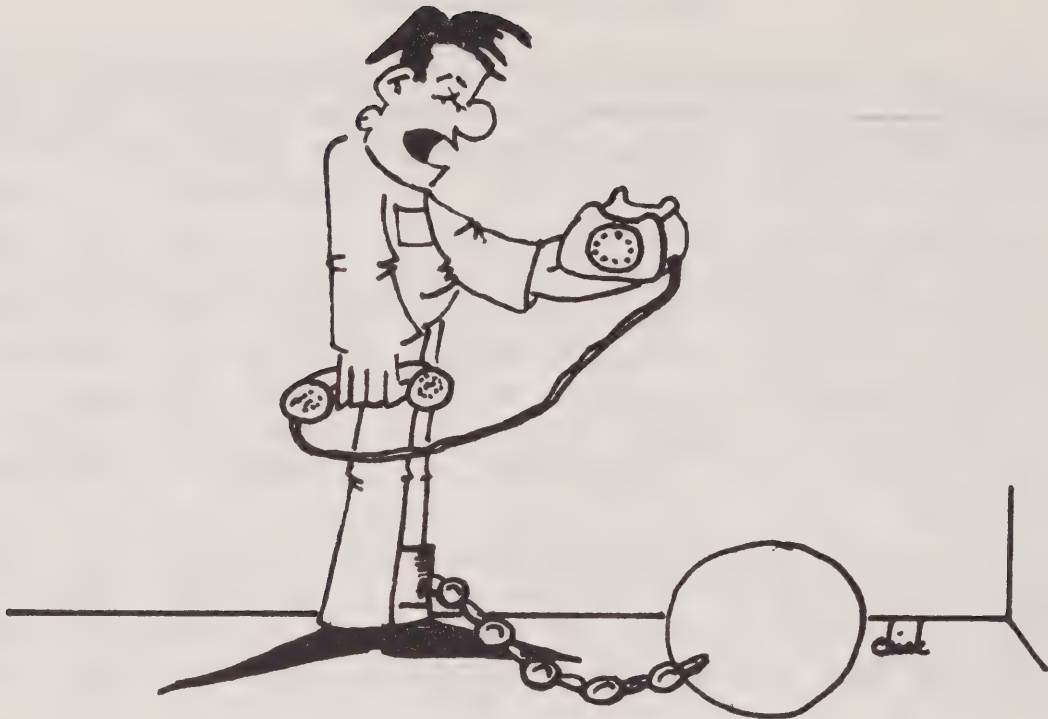
If our futures are to be that we become productive respectful members of Society, then it's time to parley! Let us be heard, showing stability, a desire for freedom, and change.... the essence of life. The substance of fortitude must evolve in our expressed quest for a better life.

We at the Collin's Bay Chapter of the John Howard Society, wish to extend an open invitation to all Parole Board Members to attend our future meetings.

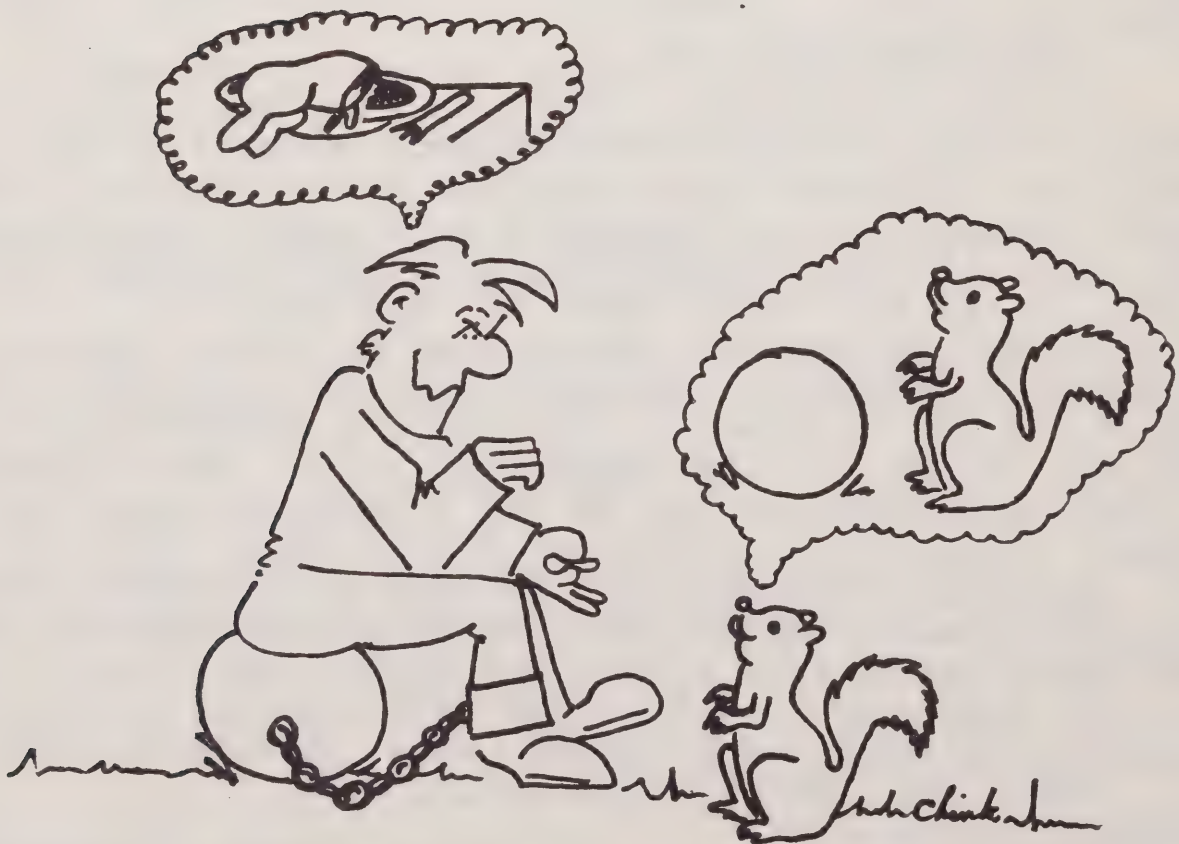
If there is a bottom line that applies to the situation from both sides of the fence, should it read

"ONLY THE SERIOUS NEED APPLY."

by Ronnie Lauzon, Co-Chairman
J.H.S., of
Collins Bay



"It's for you dear!"



Editors Note: Here is an interesting article that came to light. Let me ask you, does the type of rationale make sense? For those of you not yet aware this to is part of the Criminal Justice System.

Natives Jailed for Debt

Debtors' prison is something most people think belongs to the era of Charles Dickens, and that people are not thrown into jail any longer when they can't pay a debt. What happens when you can't pay a fine though? Well, in Kenora, Ontario chances are that you will end up in jail. Native people who couldn't afford to pay fines for minor offenses, or in some cases did not receive notices of fines through the mail are spending an average of 33 days in jail to pay \$120.00 debts. Of 60 fine defaulters surveyed in the Kenora district jail, 97% are of native origin, although only one quarter of the local population is native. More than half of the 60 people surveyed had a monthly income of less than \$400.00 and unemployment among the group was more than three times the national average. Three quarters said they could not afford to pay the fines sent through the mail.

While the 60 natives surveyed served a total of 2,003 days in jail in order to satisfy unpaid fines amounting to \$7,197.00, it cost taxpayers \$120,180.00 to keep them there. The sheer economic stupidity would be laughable if it were not for the fact that we are talking about people whose only crime was being poor, and native.

Anarchist (Black Dragon)
Newspaper.

THE DEBT

By: Paul Lawrence Dunbar

This is the debt I pay
Just for one riotous day,---
Years of regret and grief,
Sorrow without relief.

Pay it I will to the end---
Until the grave, my friend,
Gives me a true release,
Gives me the clasp of peace.

Slight was the thing I bought,
Small was the debt, I thought,
Poor was the loan at best---
God! but the interest!

"I really do love Henry," wailed June, "but I could never marry an atheist! Why, he doesn't believe in anything---not even in hell."

"Don't you worry, dear," soothed her mother. "You marry him, and we'll convince him."

"I was a fool when I married you, Henry!" snapped his shrewish wife.

"I know, I know," moaned Henry, "but I was to infatuated to notice at the time."



"HE'S AROUND HERE SOMEPLACE"

The ideal man bears the accidents of life with
dignity and grace, making the best of circumstances.

Aristotle

JOKES

Once, when Nellie was asked if she didn't want to be treated respectfully by men, she responded:

"Chivalry is only offered to young, pretty women, not to women worn out by hard work. Chivalry," she explained, "is like a line of credit. You get plenty of it when you don't need it."

In Winnipeg's first general election, held in 1874, 331 votes were cast. This represented a really good turnout.

All the more remarkable because there were only 308 names on the voting list!

A Senator's wife woke him in the middle of the night.

"There's a thief in the house," she whispered.

Groggily, the Senator told her: "Hundreds of them, my dear, hundreds of them. And there are a couple in the Senate, as well."

"Dad, what's a traitor?"

"A traitor, son, is a man who leaves our party and goes over to the other side."

"Well, Dad, what do you call a man who leaves his party and joins up with ours?"

"That, son, is a convert."

Sign on^afence in Montreal: "Yankee go home-but not until you finish your shopping".

Food For Thought

Viet Nam Vets: The parade, the national acknowledgment for the Viet Nam veteran (July 13), will never come to pass. We who fought in the war must reconcile ourselves to the memory of it. But should there ever be another Viet Nam, take care when you come for my son.

By: Randall Dick
Battle Ground,
Washington.

When a true genius appears in this world you may know him by this sign, that the dunces are all in confederacy against him.

By: Jonathan Swift

The ultimate result of shielding men from the effects of folly is to fill the world with fools.

By: Herbert Spencer

Whoever pays you more court than he is accustomed to pay, either intends to deceive you, or finds you necessary to him.

By: Richard Courtenay

The defect of equality is that we only desire it with our superiors.

By: Henery Becque

SPACE

My mind Wanders Freely,
In the essence of space.
It seems so different
Than any one place.

Flowing for miles
From Venus to Mars.
Past the Milky-way
And beyond the stars.

No Worries at Mind
Reality gone!
As I travel through space
Leaving nothing behind.

Will I ever return
How far have I gone
In this essence of space
That I've come upon.

By: Mike Hamblin

Turmoil in Iran

Iran's Islamic leaders received exactly what they so richly earned when a bomb ripped through their headquarters (July 13). Some day the mullahs will wander eternity hand in hand with the Shah and share the justice meted out to all murderers by the Almighty. Eternal damnation shall be theirs as it is the Shah's.

By: Theodore M. Kravitz
Washington Crossing
Pa., U.S.A.

PRISONERS INFORMATION SERVICES

No, P.I.S. isn't a short form for a derogatory word, nor is it a form of trying to get someones attention. P.I.S. stands for Prisoners' Information Services which is run in Collins Bay Institution by John Melanson and Guy Simmons.

Although the service has only been running full steam ahead for the last nine months, it has shown that it is unique in as much as that it is run by "CON'S" for "CON'S".

P.I.S. is a subsidiary of the Collins Bay Chapter of the John Howard Society, Ontario, and receive valuable assistance from the Inmate Employment part of the Kingston J.H.S. run by Jeff O'Neil. Pre-release assistance which is done by Mike Harris of the same Chapter, and two other important ingredients that make the John Howard Society of Kingston and its staff so well respected by cons around this area. These services are Family Counselling, who's co-ordinator is Ms. Libby Clausen and the Inmate Counselling which is done a lot of the time by the gero of cons everywhere, Mr. Graham Stewart, Executive Director of the John Howard Society, Kingston Chapter; and also by the sweet, dynamic bundle of trust and nerve, Mrs. Barb Hill.

P.I.S. works with outside agencies such as Operation Springboard, which operates out of Toronto, at 315 Dundas Street East. The Director is Ms. Joyce Lawson a lovely, charming lady who devotes much of her time to contact people in aid of almost every charity going. (or so it seems). Louie Van Meyl is another unselfish individual dedicated to helping cons, who also works with Operation Springboard. Louie does a lot of counselling and visits each institution weekly discussing personal problems with the men who ask to see him. He makes phone calls that are hard to come by because of time factors; helps with job contacts on the outside and in general is just a "super guy".

Springboard operates a bus service out of Toronto for the wives and loved ones that are visiting the incarcerated men and women in the various institutions in the Eastern Ontario Region.

cont. p.i.s.

This service costs the riders a small fee, that only covers the cost of gas and maintenance of the van's.

We, being Guy Simmons and myself John Melanson, work along with the half-way houses in Ontario, and maintain an up-to-date listing of all Half-Way Houses in Canada, their rules, requirements, and type of counselling available, etc.

P.I.S. assists in letter writing for those con's that find it difficult to communicate with various business agencies, legal letters, or those that cannot write at all. We also assist in letter writing for those that find it difficult to fill out their Day Parole Papers, by explaining clearly the factors that are taken into consideration by the National Parole Board when making their decision relating to the inmates release. P.I.S. provides interpretation of the latest Government Directives that relate to the welfare of the general population in prison.

Sometimes some of the men at Collins Bay for various reasons find it difficult to take personal problems to different personell of the institution and drop by the office to "rap" about their problems to either Guy or myself. I'm proud to say they usually leave with a more cheerful attitude, whether this is due to Guy's magnetic personality or my wisdom, I have yet to figure out. (smile).

I'm not sure how many institutions in Canada have a Prisoner's Information Service available to the various population's, but I'm proud to say that the P.I.S. here at the Bay has been very successfull and in the future we are going to become even better and bigger.

Until the next issue of "TOCSIN", this is John and Guy signing off from the little cubby-hole of an office, called Prisoner's Information Services.

Take care, and smile, things could be worse.

by: John Melanson
& Guy Simmons.

Editors Note: Thankyou fella's, you are a vital part of the group, and things would not be the same with-out the P.I.S.

CON'S EXTEND INVITATION TO
NATIONAL PAROLE BOARD

On August 14, 1981 the John Howard Society of Collins Bay took a bold step and extended an invitation to a "sitting member" of the National Parole Board of Canada, her name was Miss Ann Cools.

In the past our Chapter has had many individuals and organizations attend our Thursday night meetings. I personally felt this was one of the best and most informative meetings we have had in quite some time.

In whatever direction anyone's opinions may run, we certainly have to give this woman credit for attending an unrehearsed meeting where the majority of the participants were con's. We had Mr. Karl Polzer of the Kingston Whig Standard present, you might have thought this would inhibit Ms. Cools, it did not.

Miss Cools presented herself to us as a very straight forward person. This seemed to surprise many of us since most of the comments that are usually given by Parole Board members seems to have been negative. Miss Cools has a very positive attitude. It is infectious. She does become personally involved in her job. This woman is actively involved with the Liberal party, who appointed her to the National Parole Board of Canada, after being narrowly defeated by Mr. David Crombie in the Rosedale riding of Toronto. She is also very involved in counselling, and operates a shelter for "battered wives" and children in need. This seems to give her the ability to understand and deal with our personal cases when we present our applications to the parole board.

At our meeting, when straight forward questions were asked she gave answers that were quite detailed and informative to us. Miss Cools mentioned that the main concern when reviewing a person for parole is that this person has genuinely changed or is making an honest effort. The parole board try's to ascertain this by reports from community and institution, and much emphasis is placed on a personal interview, which

cont.: con's /parole board

most con's consider inadequate. In all fairness it should be pointed out that they do have a large case load to review. Recently the format of these hearings have allowed applicant's to have their lawyer, family member, employer or a friend, perhaps we should add, that our Chapter of the J.H.S. here in Collins Bay has assisted inmates with communications problems, at hearings, present for their hearing. Miss Cools seemed to feel that a lawyer will only hamper an inmates chance for parole. This is due lawyer doing all the talking and the board not having an opportunity to measure and get to know the applicant.

When submitting your plans for parole they must be sound and relative to the amount of sentence being served. If the individual has been in for an extended period of time, the board would like to see plans geared towards a gradual release program; camp, one and three day pass's, day paroles on to full parole. etc. Many prisoners have not or do not know how the system works. The John Howard, Collins Bay Chapter is trying to help educate the con's in this unknown area. Many inmates find out the hard way, when submitting their parole plans, after months of work and effort find the application is not suited to the sentence, they then have to start again.

Hopefully through the Life Skills Program, and Prisoner Information Service's and other programs the Collins Bay Chapter of J.H.S. is sponsoring we will be able to help in making this whole process of parole planning a positive and enlightening experience, especially to the first time offender.

At the end of the meeting Miss Cools mentioned that if we chose to extend further invitations to Parole Board Members we might be pleasantly surprised at the positive response we would receive.

Therefore we will be extending these invitations in the near future, hopefully they will accepted, and help further communications between the prisoner's and Parole Board Members.

by: Gord Beasley
J.H.S. Collins Bay
Chapter.

"DEATH"

Man is like the mist of the sea

Which lies afloat of the water

When the wind blows.....it vanishes

as if it never was

Thus our lives are blown away by death

The reality of death is life itself

Whose beginning is not from the womb and...

Whose ending lies not in the grave

For the years that pass us by

are a moment of eternal life

A world of matter and atoms are all in this

It's but a dream composed

To the awakening which we call

The terror of death....

by: T.B.S.

Editors note: This was a poem written by an inmate for his mother's sake. The man she was in love with died. After her divorce her involvement with this man was everything to her; her whole world. After his death she was heart-broken. These were his thoughts, he put them out in a poem.

"FEAR OF DEATH"

Fear of death is but a delusion

Stuck in the breasts of men

He who lives in a single springtime

Is like he who lives for ages.

by: T.B.S.

"TRUTH"

The beautiful thing about truth

Is that it lasts forever

The sad thing about truth, is how many of us
forget it

And how infrequently we use it.

by: Kahil Gibran

What justice does authority display when it
kills the killer? When it imprisons the robber?
When it descends on a neighbouring country and
slays its people? What does justice think of the
authority under which a killer punishes the one
who kills, and a thief sentences the one who steals?

by: Kahil Gibran

Thank-you Greta, it's lovely and it leaves much
for thought.

Editors Note: This is a letter I ran across while digging through an old file looking for people to help us in our drive for the Abolition of Mandatory Supervision. It expresses the Chapters feelings with uncanny insight.

March 18, 1981

Robert Kaplan
Solicitor General
Parliament Building
Ottawa, Ontario.

Dear Sir:

Re: mandatory supervision

In one of those moments of life we retain in our memory with crystalline clarity I was sitting with other volunteers around a huge table on a summer evening within the National Parole Service complex on King Street in Kingston, Ontario. It was a long time ago.

A civil servant within the Service was voicing his concern too, that inmates released after their sentences were completely served had no support when faced with adjusting to life outside. He spoke of a new program to fill "the gap". That program became mandatory supervision.

Mandatory supervision, a good idea in its motives, has now gone sour. Those involved regard it as punishment and are not getting the guidance and support they may need.

I hope that you will see fit to abolish mandatory supervision and provide the non-punitive services that should be available to those who suddenly have to take charge of their own lives again.

Yours Truly,
(Mrs.) T.D. Dawes
Westbrook, Ontario

Editors Note: The following is a letter from the
JOHN HOWARD CHAPTER of KINGSTON.

August 7th, 1981

Dear Colleague:

The enclosed material (our promotional package located at the front of the newspaper) prepared by the Collins Bay Chapter of the John Howard Society, reflects the deep concern here and with all prisoners over the continuation of Mandatory Supervision.

Two recently released studies from the Solicitor General's office with frequently conflicting recommendations, indicate the lack of certainty which exists within the correctional system regarding the value of Mandatory Supervision, as well as the importance of declaring opposition to it now while the matter is being reviewed.

The first write-in .17¢ Campaign organized by the Collins B-y Chapter generated about 5,500 letters to the Solicitor General, 50% of which came from the community. The next campaign, with more time to become organized and more material to distribute, should be much more successful.

Please read the enclosed material. We hope you will give your support and encourage others to participate. It will not be easy to move the government to abolish Mandatory Supervision given the lack of general public knowledge and their own vested interests in maintaining it. Nevertheless, it remains clear that if we don't do something now, we will have to live with Mandatory Supervision for a very long time.

There is support to abolish Mandatory Supervision when people understand the issues. It is surely our responsibility to get the message across.

cont.

Let's get it all together on this one.

Sincerely,

Graham Stewart, M.S.W.,
Executive Director.
J.H.S., Kingston Chapter.

FOR THE SAKE OF SOCIETY AT LARGE A TERM OF
IMPRISONMENT SHOULD NOT ONLY KEEP THE CRIMINAL
WHERE HE CAN DO NO HARM, BUT ALSO SHOULD BE
MAKING HIM INTO A MORE RELIABLE CITIZEN.

ANATOMY OF PRISON
HUNG J. CLARE
BRITISH JOURNAL OF
CRIMINOLOGY

The war on privilege will never end. Its next great
campaign will be against the special privileges of
the underprivileged.

H.L. Mencken

If man does ever find the solution for world peace,
it will be the most revolutionary reversal of his
record we have ever known.

General George C. Marshall

Children (and prisoner's) need love, especially
when they do not deserve it.

Harold S. Hulbert

Tact is the knack of making a point without making
an enemy.

Howard W. Newton

PRISON & HUMILIATION

The thesis that the criminal is a sick individual in need of treatment which is promoted today as if it were a recent psychiatric discovery-is false. Indeed it is hardly more than a refurbishing, with new terms, of the main ideas and techniques of the inquisitorial process. A convicted person is first discredited as a self-responsible human being and then subjected to humiliating punishment defined and disguised as (corrections) rehabilitation.

The public conscience is spared by the idea of replacing prison-for-punishment with imprisonment-for-therapy. For the ever growing army of Behavioral Scientists it furnishes a stockade of caged human guinea pigs on which to try out the more exotic techniques of people changing.

In prison "treatment" is an umbrella term meaning diagnosis classification, punishment as necessary and prediction of future behaviour: will/or won't he err again? While the prison people talk a good line of treatment few prisons have done much about putting any programs into action. Across Canada only about 5% of the budget goes into services labeled "rehabilitative" and some jails don't even make a pretense of making therapy available; i.e. Millhaven.

Groups of inmates that make efforts to start programs and treatments available to themselves and others in need are all too often met with resistance because the administration were not the initiators or with the most final of all rejections; "the funding is not available". If by chance outside funding is found the next obstacle is that space for classes and/or lectures is not available.

More and more inmates are becoming aware of the need for Life Skills information, i.e. drug inform-

cont. prison & humiliation

ation programs, awareness groups, meditation classes, and the gamut of rehabilitation services.

We know our needs and would appreciate any assistance any human being reading this would offer.

by: Billy Bryant

THE YOUNG OFFENDER

After much consideration as to where I should begin, I decided to start with the first line of my friends letter dated March 25/81. "I write to you, in response to your letter in the Edmonton Journal of March 24/81". Since that time Cliff and I have been corresponding, exchanging views and ideas.

Many of his views centre along the lines of, "helping first time offenders". As it turns out this is one of the areas that I am going to be involved in on release. We have to try and reach the youth of our country before they become involved in the "vicious prison system". The following is an article he sent me;

Pot policy "archaic"

Edmonton

Journal, May 26/81

A one-week jail sentence given last week to a 16 year-old Ontario high school student with no previous criminal record for possessing enough marijuana to make one cigarette was condemned Monday in the Commons as "a Draconian measure."

cont. the young offender

Svend Robinson, New Democratic Party justice critic, also criticized the governments "futile, archaic policy" on the drug and asked when the Liberals would live up to repeated promises to remove it from the Criminal Code.

"Soon," said Justice Minister Jean Chretien.

Robinson quoted from a news report that said L.T.G. Collins a Peterborough provincial court judge, handed out the week-long sentence to a first offender, Michael Mc-Namara, last week.

Here is a young man who must bear the stigma of a criminal conviction for the rest of his life. Wherever he applies for a job this will surface. We as con's are not surprised at the lack of compassion or logic attached to this case. Many con's have faced the same type of situation, with 5, 10 and 15 years tossed around like it was a dog's life the crown and judge were discussing.

This is an area, where we, the J.H.S. of Collins Bay can and certainly would be interested in becoming more involved.

Perhaps through video-tapes, talks at schools, groups, one on one, etc., we could lend a hand.

Cliff, what I'm doing (I know you're reading your subscription now, -smile) is trying to put your idea across to our subscribers and asking for suggestions and thoughts as to how we can further help the young people before they reach a stage of being sentenced to any amount of time in jail.

cont. the young offender

There are many parts of Cliff's letter that I could quote verbatim and would make ideal material for an article.

The reason for not doing so, is that I feel his letter to myself is personal. As you are able to see for yourself Cliff has submitted an article. Thanks Cliff.

Gerald Colford Jr.
Chairman

Editors Note: Any group or organization, sociology department or criminal law group, etc. please be good enough to send on to me, articles, statistics on methods or ideas you may have regarding this important but oft overlooked area.

MY MOST SINCERE THANKS GO OUT TO MR. BILL MC CABE, RESEARCH CO-ORDINATOR, QUEEN'S UNIVERSITY, AND BARB HILL, J.H.S., KINGSTON CHAPTER FOR THEIR EFFORTS IN THIS AREA. THANKYOU VERY MUCH.

Gerry

Editors Note:

THE TOCSIN IS OUR SOLE MEANS OF SUPPORT FOR THE COLLINS BAY CHAPTER OF THE JOHN HOWARD SOCIETY WE WOULD APPRECIATE YOUR SUPPORT AND PARTICIPATION. IF YOU HAVE FRIENDS (OR ENEMIES) SIGN THEM UP. WE NEED ARTICLES, INPUT OF ALL TYPES, TO KEEP OUR NEWSPAPER UP TO PAR. HAVEN'T WE ALL WANTED TO SEE OUR IDEA'S IN PRINT! SURE WE HAVE.

Hollow promises run rampant in our society today!
 (not too bad eh! smile* I just made that one up)
 Gerry

Dairy Stockpiles

After reading the article "Buttering Up the Farmers" (July 6/81), I am quite convinced that capitalistic economics is a discrimination, nasty tool without any viable source of humanity or emotion. Stockpiling all those dairy products while poor people around the world are starving is clearly inhumane.

Gary Mark
 New York City

Well Gary instead of thinking of the people around the world, how about home, I personally know of many North Americans who can only afford margarine.

A gallon of milk here costs twice as much as a gallon of gasoline, and cheese costs more than some meats at the supermarket. Because of Government storage, and subsidies, it's senseless for the North American consumer to boycott the dairy farmers, but they make the OPEC nations look like philanthropists.

Joe Parker
 Ocala, Florida

Wordless Signals

Verbal communication is so often abandoned to be replaced by nonverbal messages because it has so often been abused by power seekers and manipulators. The "I promise you" of the politicians and "I love you" of the one-night stands force people to search for more reliable signals.

"THE 1¢ CAMPAIGN"

There are many aspects of prison reform to which we can direct our energies. For this issue we have chosen to put the emphasis on our "1¢ Campaign" which is directed towards the "ABOLISHMENT OF MANDATORY SUPERVISION".

With your help we are asking the government to honour the laws of our land, the laws they have implemented for us, (you and I) the people.

The moral and legal issues alone should be sufficient reason for our representatives in government to take steps to rectify thier wrongs.

Lets look at realities; Mr. Francis Fox, former Solicitor-General of Canada has estimated the cost to run the Federal Justice System, courts, police, parole services, parole board etc., by 1985 will exceed Eight Billion Dollars.

Many of our Members of Parliament, with risk to their positions and chance's for advancement have spoken out against the wasted millions of dollars being spent to expand prisons. Millions, spent on incarceration with very little or no emphasis placed on rehabilitation. Our "1¢ CAMPAIGN" is being launched to make people aware of the waste.

As prisoners and human beings we ask that the millions of dollars now being wasted on Mandatory Supervision be redirected into concrete programs related to employment, housing, counselling, in general rehabilitation. Let us together, try and put an end to this vicious cycle of apathy and wasted humanity.

Did you realize that under Mandatory Supervision a man can be returned to prison for getting married, buying a car, going outside a 25 mile radius from his house, having one drink, suspicion of committing a crime, association with another inmate or party, that

cont.: "1ø Campaign"

you may have lived next to for years in prison. Or a street person you've known, and could be suspected of being a criminal. These are some of the more standard rules, but any and all rules your parole officer can think up.

This may sound absurd, but believe me, it is reality.

The most astounding piece of information regarding all of the above is that YOU!, the tax-payer is shelling out hundreds of millions of hard earned dollars to support this ridiculous situation.

Small wonder the Canadian Government does not want the PUBLIC aware of what's going on. If I was in their shoes I wouldn't either. WOULD YOU?

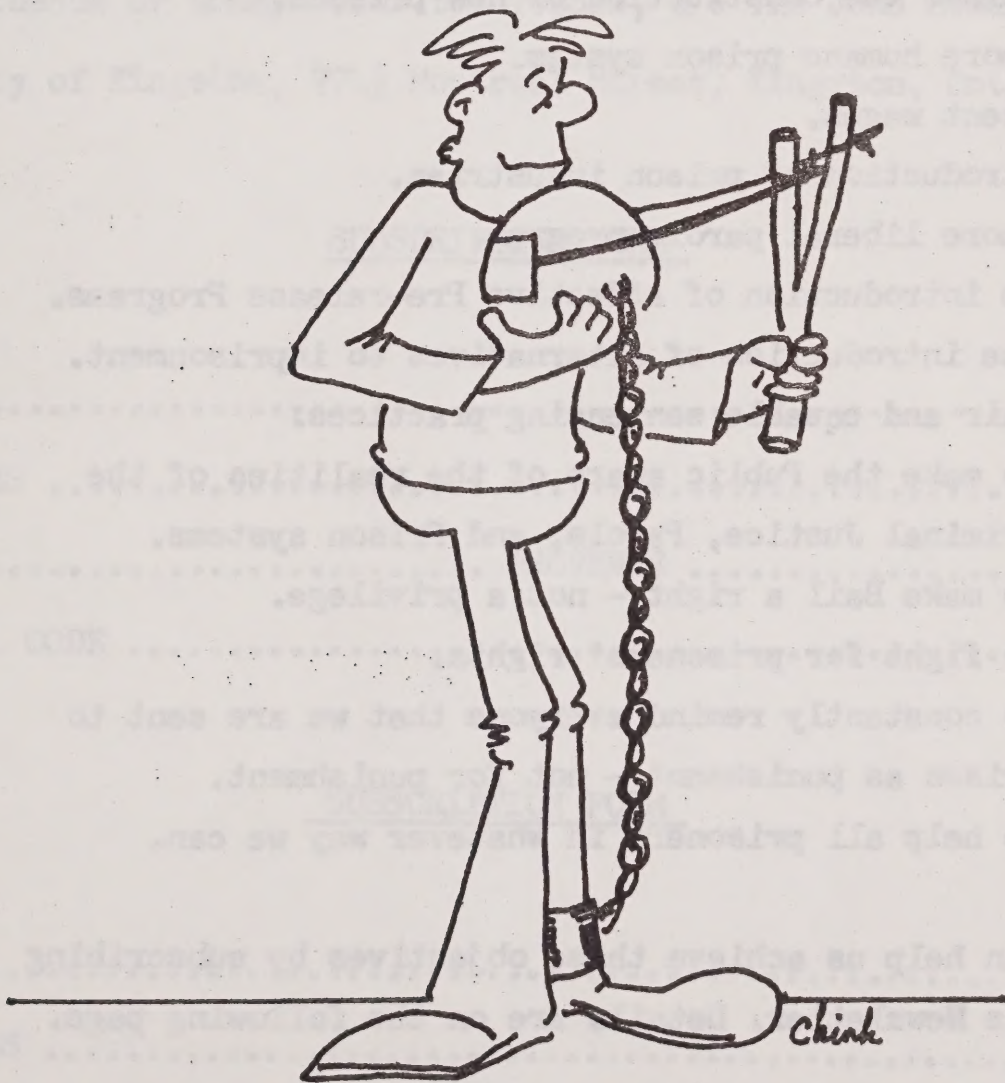
Our "1ø CAMPAIGN" is OUR (you and I) chance to speak out and be heard. To let the government know we aren't as stupid as they seem to think we are!

Mr. P. Trudeau's famous quote, "if the Canadian people don't care, why should I". Let's show him we do care.

With you the tax-payer, the people, we have a chance to succeed, to put an end to the waste. Join us in our effort. We can help each other. It seems the government refuses to act without a push.

Gerald Colford Jr.
Co-Chairman, J.H.S.
of C.B.I.

ONCE AGAIN THE REQUEST IS PUT FORTH FOR ARTICLES,
JOKES, POETRY, ETC. WE NEED YOUR IMPUT IN ORDER
TO KEEP EXPANDING. YOUR VIEWS AND OPINIONS ARE
APPRECIATED, WEHTER THEY AGREE WITH OUR STANDS OR
NOT. IN THE EVENT YOU DON'T HAVE AN ARTICLE, SIGN
UP A NEW SUBSCRIBER. (smile) Gerald Colford Jr.



COLLINS BAY CHAPTERJOHN HOWARD SOCIETYAIMS AND OBJECTIVES

1. The abolishment of Mandatory Supervision.
2. The abolishment of all Special Handling Units.
3. The abolishment of twenty five year minimum sentences.
4. Against the construction of new prisons.
5. A more humane prison system.
6. Decent wages.
7. Introduction of prison industries.
8. A more liberal parole program.
9. The introduction of effective Pre-release Programs.
10. The introduction of alternatives to imprisonment.
11. Fair and equable sentencing practices.
12. To make the Public aware of the realities of the Criminal Justice, Parole, and Prison systems.
13. To make Bail a right - not a privilege.
14. To fight for prisoners' rights.
15. To constantly remind everyone that we are sent to prison as punishment - not for punishment.
16. To help all prisoners in whatever way we can.

YOU can help us achieve these objectives by subscribing to this Newsletter. Details are on the following page.

SUBSCRIBE NOW

The Tocsin is a self-supporting Newsletter. We need subscribers to keep publishing. Six issues for \$ 5.00.

Send cheque or money-order to: TOCSIN, c/o The John Howard Society of Kingston, 771 $\frac{1}{2}$ Montreal Street, Kingston, Ontario.

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY PROVENCE
POSTAL CODE

SUBSCRIPTION FORM

NAME
ADDRESS
CITY PROVENCE
POSTAL CODE

From: The Collins Bay Chapter,

John Howard Society,

P.O.Box 190,

Kingston, Ontario.

K7L 4V9.

To: